

REMARKS

STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 2, 3, 7-9, 11, 27, 28, and 29-32 are pending in the application. In the Final Office Action mailed June 16, 2005 (hereinafter referred to as "the Office Action"), claims 1-11 and 27-29 were rejected, claims 12-26 were withdrawn from consideration, and claims 30-32 were allowed by the Examiner.

All withdrawn claims, the rejected independent claims, and repetitious dependent claims have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein. Novel dependent claims depending from cancelled claims have been amended to depend from allowable claims. Slight amendments have also been made for reasons of antecedent basis. No new matter has been added by these amendments and no estoppels are intended thereby.

In a teleconference on Wednesday, June 22, 2005, Examiner Grant graciously indicated that amendments made in compliance with the Office Action would be entered after final. It is believed that the entry of these amendments are proper after Final under M.P.E.P. 714.11, because no new issues are presented that would require further consideration or search. No new claims are presented. The rejected independent claims are cancelled or amended to depend from allowed claims. The Applicants believe that the amendments made herein place the application in condition for allowance and earnestly solicit that these amendments be entered after final. No other remarks are believed to be required. Withdrawal of outstanding rejections is respectfully requested in view of the forgoing amendments.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that the application is not in condition for allowance, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner contact the undersigned by telephone at 202 861-1629 if it is believed that such contact will expedite the prosecution of the application.

In the event this paper is not timely filed, Applicants petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fee deficiencies or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-2036.

Respectfully submitted,

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